

Vendor Questions and VA Answers

1. What type of roof access do we have? Stairs, Elevator, Ladder?
A: Depends on the location chosen for dish/antennae placement but elevator and/or stairs access will be available to the roof.
2. What will the cable path from the dish to the head-end be? Outside and down the wall, or somehow down the inside of the building?
A: The cable path is restricted only by VA Specifications 274131 and 271000, attached.
3. Where should the point of entry be?
A: The point of entry is dependent on the location of the dish and the equipment rack needs.
4. Can we get a print of the entire project (As-Built of the cabling)? I need to know which areas require television capabilities, and I need to know the footages for the buildings and hallways. Also, it would be a great help to know specifically where all the TV outlets are. He had indicated the whole facility was wired, and then said they only have TV's in Buildings 1,3,7,8. A print of the cable system would still be great! If they can't provide that, can their people perform a physical inspection of the cable system and mark up a drawing for us?
A: A print doesn't exist-- we can provide floor plans with the specified locations. From the looks of things, it will be campus wide cabling. Buildings 9 (Floors A&B), B8- Floor A, Building 7 (floors A&B), Building 3 have the Domiciliary Residents, and the Community Living Centers. Building 9 currently would need approximately 6 TVs, but the future plans have one in every patient room- that equates to about 45 TVs in Building 9 at a later date. Buildings 1, 2, 4,5,33,36,37 have existing patient care areas with waiting rooms, day treatment centers, workout rooms- (1-2 TVs in each building)(building 1 likely has 6 or so). Actual count of "right now" would be 50 on 8A, 50 on 7B, 50 on 7A, 40 on Building 3 (I'm not sure of which floors), and 3 each on 9a and 9 b. The remainder would be in the existing waiting rooms etc.
5. Will we have room to install a typical equipment rack in the "Facilities Management Service Center"? About 6' H X 3' W X 3" D.
A: Not in the existing equipment rack room. Depending on the locations of the dish and the entry point, we would be able to find room. There is at least one option in Building 1 (where we saw the existing rack), but it is on one of the upper floors and is not climate controlled.
6. Approximately how many (#) of TV channels are you requesting. The cost of the equipment varies with the number of channels.
A: The VA is requesting approximately 100+ channels similar or equal to the DirecTV Entertainment™ package but also including all local channels, CBS College Sports, ESPN Deportes, NBC Sports, Fox Sports 1, Fox Sports 2, Golf and Oxygen.

7. Is there access to electric (power) outlets in the hallway ceilings?

A: No.

8. Are we able to walk the site again? Specifically the D Mark, not a complete walk thru.

A: No, multiple site visits are not feasible.

9. Can we temporarily disconnect the cable? We will be able to tell if the system will work as is, or whether the whole facility will have to be re-cabled.

A: Yes, this can be coordinated with the COR, Susan Nelson.

10. When are you anticipating a start of work date?

A: No later than 1/2/15.

11. Are there any special installation materials required? (ex: Firestop caulk.)

A: See VA Specifications 274131 and 271000, attached.

12. While onsite we were able to view an existing tv and service and the channels were in HD, we posed the question on the walk-thru if HD or Standard would be needed and we were told Standard. Please advise as to which one.

A: HD.

13. How will we be given access to existing patient rooms? Will the VA phase these areas and if so how many locations per phase?

A: Access will be given through coordination. We would work with the staffing on those areas to develop a phasing plan and coordinated access.

14. It may not be possible to complete installation by 1/1/15, is this a hard start date?

A: Installation efforts must begin no later than 1/2/15 as 1/1/15 is a federal holiday.

15. Who is the incumbent vendor?

A: Time Warner Cable

